

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please cancel claims 27-49, 71-79, and 82-98, without prejudice. Please add new claims 99-142.

1-98. (canceled)

61 99. (new) A computer-based method for providing a client with data format information relating to data formats supported by a server, the method comprising:  
under control of server code, providing the data format information;  
storing the provided data format information in a persistent registry; and  
under control of the client,  
retrieving from the persistent registry the stored data format information; and  
determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by the server.

100. (new) The method of claim 99 wherein the server code is code executed during installation of the server.

101. (new) The method of claim 99 wherein the server code is code executed when the server is launched.

102. (new) The method of claim 99 including when the server supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

103. (new) The method of claim 102 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

104. (new) The method of claim 102 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

105. (new) The method of claim 102 wherein the client and the server exchange data using a compatible format.

61 106. (new) The method of claim 99 wherein the client determines the data formats while the server is not executing.

107. (new) A computer-based method for determining the data formats that are supported by a server, the method comprising:

retrieving from a persistent registry data format information, the data format information being provided by server code for storage in the persistent registry; and

determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by the server.

108. (new) The method of claim 107 including when the server supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

109. (new) The method of claim 108 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

110. (new) The method of claim 108 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

111. (new) The method of claim 108 wherein the client and the server exchange data using a compatible format.

112. (new) The method of claim 107 wherein the client determines the data formats while the server is not executing.

113. (new) A computer-based method for supplying data format information for data formats supported by a server, the method comprising:

under control of server code,

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retrieving the data format information; and  
storing the data format information in a persistent registry so that a client can  
retrieve the data format information from the registry and determine the data formats that  
are supported by the server.

114. (new) The method of claim 113 wherein the client determines the data formats  
while the server is not executing.

115. (new) The method of claim 113 wherein the server code is code executed during  
installation of the server.

116. (new) The method of claim 113 wherein the server code is code executed when  
the server is launched.

117. (new) The method of claim 113 including when the server supports a data format  
that is compatible with the client launching the server.

118. (new) The method of claim 117 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
the server is launched in a separate process.

119. (new) The method of claim 117 wherein the client is executing in a process and  
the server is launched in the same process.

120. (new) The method of claim 117 wherein the client and the server exchange data  
using a compatible format.

121. (new) One or more computer-readable media containing computer-executable  
instructions for performing a method to provide a client with data format information relating to  
data formats supported by a server, the method comprising:

under control of server code, providing the data format information;  
storing the provided data format information in a persistent registry; and

under control of the client,

retrieving from the persistent registry the stored data format information; and

determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by the server.

61 122. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 121 wherein the server code is code executed during installation of the server.

123. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 121 wherein the server code is code executed when the server is launched.

124. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 121 including when the server supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

125. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 124 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

126. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 124 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

127. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 124 wherein the client and the server exchange data using a compatible format.

128. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 121 wherein the client determines the data formats while the server is not executing.

129. (new) A computer-readable media containing computer-executable instructions for performing a method to determine data formats that are supported by a server, the method comprising:

retrieving from a persistent registry data format information, the data format information being provided by server code for storage in the persistent registry; and

determining from the retrieved data format information data formats supported by the server.

64 130. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 129 including when the server supports a data format that is compatible with the client, launching the server.

131. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 130 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

132. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 130 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

133. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 130 wherein the client and the server exchange data using a compatible format.

134. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 129 wherein the client determines the data formats while the server is not executing.

135. (new) A computer-readable media containing computer-executable instructions for performing a method to supply data format information for data formats supported by a server, the method comprising:

under control of server code,

retrieving the data information; and

storing the data format information in a persistent registry so that a client can retrieve the data format information from the registry and determine the data formats that are supported by the server.

136. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 135 wherein the client determines the data formats while the server is not executing.

137. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 135 wherein the server code is code executed during installation of the server.

GJ 138. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 135 wherein the server code is code executed when the server is launched.

139. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 135 including when the server supports a data format that is compatible with the client launching the server.

140. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 139 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in a separate process.

141. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 139 wherein the client is executing in a process and the server is launched in the same process.

142. (new) The computer-readable media of claim 139 wherein the client and the server exchange data using a compatible format.